



Edmonds Elementary Parent Teacher Association

General Meeting Minutes - 20 May 2010

7:00 pm in the library

Call to Order – Michele Fellows called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Board Report

2010-11 Board Positions – Michele Fellows presented the new board:

Elected positions: Michele Fellows – President; Nichole Sargent – Vice President; Michelle Merrill – Treasurer; Dorothy Pierce & Rich Hehn – Co-Secretaries; Stacy Payte – Finance Committee/CPC; Carol Davies – Membership Chair; Cathy Baran & Cherry Bramel– Co-Communications Chairs

Appointed positions: Brandi Christman - Everyday Ways Coordinator; Kara May Volunteer Coordinator/Membership; Lynn Lawrence - Event Coordinator; Heather Miller STARS rep to Fin. Committee; Diana White - CPC Representative; Pamela Frank- Member-at-large

Cindy Bartlette declined a position on the 2010-2011 PTA Board

Staff Appreciation Wrap Report - Pamela Frank reported on the overall success of the week.

Luncheon went well and there were many volunteers. Nichole Sargent suggested that we do a school supplies “shopping drive” as a fun way to support the staff next year. We would fill the lunch room with (parent-donated) office supplies and let the teachers “shop” through them.

Treasurer Report – Michelle Merrill presented current balance sheet.

Beth Whitney asked about the renewal rate of Pace and other Everyday Ways Campaigns (close to last year – even without start of year push) sitting around \$1000 for Pace.

Discussion of end of year Box Tops/Campbells push.

Yearbooks are due June 8th. Mrs. Oliver will need to set date released to students. Only 40 books left. Reorders in qty of 25.

Committee reports

Jog-a-thon – Steph Ingalls reported on prizes and class incentives.

The ipod touch drawing will take place at the end of year assembly on June 17th. June 7 due date for sponsorships. May be extended to June 10, if necessary.

Awards Committee – Golden Acorn nomination forms handed out. Possible educator award.

Sixth grade Scholarships – Dorothy Pierce reported on scholarship.

Two \$100 scholarships will be granted to outgoing sixth graders based on an essay contest.

Essays will be juried by Powerful Partners volunteers (awaiting confirmation, Diana White will be coordinating) Theme is “My Dreams for the Future” and scholarships should be used toward summer programs.

Year End BBQ – Stacy Payte discussed basics

June 21 12-2pm, ask for RSVPs to help properly prepare for food. Both paper/electronic RSVP forms. BBQ committee will continue to meet.

Watch DOGS – Rich Hehn will head Watch Dogs for next year.

Would like other dads to help with the process. Will look for additional volunteers for next year.

Discussion Topic

The future of the ORCA Fund – Conversation Chaired by Cathy Baran

This discussion centered on whether to keep the ORCA Fund and Jogathon as 2 separate fund raisers at the beginning of the school year or whether to combine them into one fundraiser with the same fund-raising goal (an ORCA-thon). CB discussed the results of the email asking for votes:

Option A) ORCA Fund/Jog-A-Thon; Two separate events in fall.

Option B) ORCA-Thon; Combine ORCA Fund drive & Jog-A-Thon fundraisers in fall.

Of those that responded, 73% were in favor of Option B (combine events), 25% were in favor of Option A (separate events), and 2% stated they would support the majority vote.

During the discussion Diana White raised concern over there being 2 fundraisers, when the goal of the ORCA Fund was to compress fundraising into a one-time request with the jog-a-thon held as back up in case the fundraising goals were not met. There was discussion over this from Cathy Baran, Stacy Payte, Diana White, Beth Whitney, Nichole Sargent, Dorothy Pierce, Pamela Frank, Kim Zimmerman, Rich Hehn, Julie Hehn, Carol Davies, Kara May and Sho Fuji.

It was established that the jogathon committee had decided to move the jogathon to the fall regardless of the Orca Fund, due to the fact that children were essentially fundraising for the next year and it would make them more involved to fundraise for their current classes.

Parents stated that it is easier to ask for family and friends to sponsor a jogathon than it is to ask them to pay for school supplies. We discussed other ways to support the school later in the year if the fundraising goals are not met, including a paper drive.

Don Whitney moved that we go forward with a combined “Orca-thon” as a one-year experiment:

- combine the ORCA Fund drive & Jog-A-Thon fundraisers in the fall of 2010;
- establish a committee to create and implement the new combined event;
- evaluate the results of combining the events by the end of the school year; and
- vote once again by the end of the year on whether to continue with the combined event or not for the following year.

After some more discussion the motion passed with no dissenting votes.

New Business

Diana White raised a concern that the teachers votes in the PTA Board election at the prior meeting had not been counted. Cathy Baran explained that all the votes that had been cast had been counted except for one that had to be discarded due to 14 votes. Dorothy Pierce stated that all ballots had been retained in a sealed envelope if anyone wished to review them. There was discussion that all paid PTA memberships were allowed to vote, even if they had only joined that evening. Don Whitney stated that when using the term “ex-officio” in the revised Standing Rules, his intention had been a non-paid voting membership. Cathy Baran reiterated that all votes that were cast were counted.

Beth and Don Whitney asked us to note in the subject line emails that required action and provide a few days to process requests when asking for votes or action from the members. There was some discussion as to whether voting via email is considered binding. Kim Zimmerman clarified that this is something that the WSPTA Bylaws allow but it would need to be added into our Standing Rules if it is a policy we wish to adopt.

Don Whitney explained a new company that he works with Arumis/Zoolah.com that may provide us with an online portal to accept donations via credit card or monthly payments. He is going to see if they will allow our PTA to be one of the “beta testing” groups for this to see if it would be a viable way for us to maximize donations.

Adjournment 8:10pm